United Nations E/AC.51/2002/L.6/Add.9

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
3 July 2002

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-second session
10 June-5 July 2002
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Item 4 (b)

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

1. At its 10th meeting, on 18 June 2002, the Committee considered the proposed revisions to programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (A/57/6 (Prog. 7)).

2. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the proposed revisions and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the revisions.

Discussion

3. General support was expressed for the proposed revisions.

4. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the report of the Secretary-General on the road map towards the implementation of the Declaration as new mandates, for references to the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and for

02-45273 (E) 030702

references to other conferences that would provide further legislative authority for the programme.

5. The view was expressed that some of the narratives proposed for deletion, particularly in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.3, should be retained. It was considered that a reference to the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries should have been included under paragraph 7.1.

6. The inclusion in the revisions to the programme of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement approved by the General Assembly under section 9 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 was questioned on the grounds that most of them were designed to evaluate member States' performance instead of that of the Secretariat.

7. The view was expressed that in certain instances there was a missing link between the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement. It was further considered that a number of indicators of achievement were of a purely quantitative nature and needed to be reformulated in order to emphasize the qualitative nature of the change to be measured.

8. Support was expressed for the proposed revised expected accomplishment under paragraph 7.13 (c), regarding the establishment of an expanded network for information exchange and communication with Governments and civil society. The view was expressed that the indicator of achievement under paragraph 7.14 (g) should make reference to technical services provided in implementation of the Beijing Declaration.

9. It was stated that the implementation of centralized and systematized databases as required by the report of the Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly would contribute to the accomplishment of the goals of subprogramme 2, avoiding unnecessary duplication and reaching important sectors of the population.

10. It was proposed to retain the following narrative slated for deletion:

(a) Paragraph 7.33 (a), "of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and economies in transition to mobilize financial resources for development by advancing the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development;

(b) Paragraph 7.33 (d), "thus, the subprogramme would contribute to the formulation of new goals and strategies for long-term development";

(c) Paragraph 7.34, "a constructive dialogue on macroeconomic policy issues in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through systematic surveys of the global economy and the provision of substantive support to the policy processes";

(d) Paragraph 7.35, "a percentage increase in the number of consensus decisions reached and action taken by the United Nations, the international community in general and Governments on measures to accelerate growth and development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including implementation of national, regional and international efforts to make the global financial system more responsive to the challenges of development that

emanate from the high-level event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

11. It was also proposed that a number of the revised expected accomplishments contained in paragraph 7.34 and indicators of achievement contained in paragraph 7.35 be reviewed because their current wording did not convey the idea of progress made.

12. The establishment of a new subprogramme 9, Sustainable forest development, was welcomed. Doubts were expressed whether the number of high-level ministerial segment meetings, including policy dialogues cited as an indicator of achievement under paragraph 7.43 (c), could be considered as an adequate measure of the accomplishments of the subprogramme. The view was expressed that references to the question of establishing an effective financing mechanism and to the multi-year programme of work should have been included under expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under paragraphs 7.42 and 7.43, respectively.

13. Support was expressed for the fact that the responsibility for the implementation of subprogramme 9 remained with the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests. It was stressed that no additional tasks should be incorporated into the programme of work adopted by the Forum.

14. The view was expressed that the agreed outcome of the recent International Conference on Financing for Development required sustained follow-up on the part of the United Nations system. It was considered that such follow-up could be accomplished by establishing a separate new subprogramme under programme 7.

Conclusions and recommendations

15. The Committee recommended that, following the endorsement of the Monterrey Consensus by the General Assembly, as adopted by the International Conference on Financing for Development on 22 March 2002, the Secretary-General prepare a proposal for a new subprogramme on financing for development under programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for 2002-2005, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

16. The Committee recommended that, in accordance with the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August 2002, the Secretary-General submit revisions to relevant subprogrammes for the consideration of and action by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

17. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General in programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, with the following modifications:

Paragraph 7.1

– **Retain the original wording of the second sentence of paragraph 7.1 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.**

– In the third sentence, after the words "United Nations to", insert the word "meeting", and insert after the words "everywhere and to" insert the word "effectively".

– In the fifth sentence, after the word "consensus", insert the words "strengthening of partnership of Governments of the North and South on the one hand and between major groups or relevant stakeholders on the other".

– In the sixth sentence, replace the words "those three areas" with the words "those few areas".

Paragraph 7.2

– Towards the end of the first sentence, before the words "the Millennium Declaration (2000)", insert the words "the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS (2001) and the special session of the General Assembly on Children (2002)".

– At the end of the first sentence, after the words "the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (2001)", add the words "and the Third United Nations Conference on Least-Developed Countries".

– Replace the last sentence with the following: "In addition, it is expected that the decisions of the General Assembly on the outcome of the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development, the International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, and the outcome of the World Summit for Sustainable Development, to be held in 2002, will provide further legislative authority to the programme".

Paragraph 7.3

– Retain the original wording of the second sentence of paragraph 7.3 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, up to the word "development", and delete the words "and the integrated follow-up to the global conferences".

– Revise the new text of paragraph 7.3, which reads "in particular the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences" to read "implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields".

Paragraph 7.6 (b)

– After the words "United Nations", insert the words "in conformity with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council".

– Replace the words "diverse stakeholders" with the words "diverse institutional stakeholders".

– Delete the words "and by adapting the Council's working methods to new requirements".

Paragraph 7.7 (d)

– After the word "Assembly", insert the words "in accordance with its resolution 56/76".

– After the word "participation", insert the words "in accordance with the established rules of procedures and practices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council with respect to the representation".

– Replace the word "universities" with the word "academia".

Paragraph 7.7 (f)

Replace paragraph 7.7 (f) with text similar to paragraph 21 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/285, as follows: "Making more use of the regular consultations provided for in paragraph 43 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 51/241, including between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General will provide those meetings with secretarial support, as appropriate, including written information to Member States through the chairmen of the regional groups".

Paragraph 7.8

Retain expected accomplishments (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) as approved in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.9 (a)

Replace the words "and relevant issues" with the words "concerning economic and social development issues".

Paragraph 7.9 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.9 (b) with the following: "Report by Member States that dialogues, round-table discussions and panels are informative and relevant and contribute to intergovernmental deliberations, which should be disseminated, including through the Internet."

Paragraph 7.9 (c)

At the end of paragraph 7.9 (c), add the words "as appropriate".

Paragraph 7.9 (d)

Revise paragraph 7.9 (d) to read "Report by Member States that inputs from concerned parts of the Organization and the system as a whole are relevant, coordinated and timely".

Paragraph 7.9 (f)

Delete the words "and others".

Paragraph 7.9 (g)

Revise paragraph 7.9 (g) to read "Feedback from Member States shows that the triennial review of operational activities for development and related activities are relevant".

Paragraph 7.10

Replace the words "the Security Council resolution on women, peace and security" with the words "the relevant resolutions of the principal organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council".

Paragraph 7.13 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.13 (b) with the following: "Enhanced capacity to provide effective gender advisory services that assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in implementing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, to Member States, and enhanced involvement of all other actors to effectively implement the recommendations contained in the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and subsequent intergovernmental mandates, and the pertinent aspects of the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.13 (f)

Replace paragraph 7.13 (f) with the following: "Enhanced capacity of Member States and enhanced involvement of all other actors to effectively implement the recommendations contained in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly".

Paragraph 7.14 (a)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.14 (a) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.14 (c)

Replace the words "Satisfaction expressed by States parties with regard to" with the words "Reports by Member States that", and at the end of the subparagraph, add the words "are useful".

Paragraph 7.14 (g)

- **Replace the words "The satisfaction of" with the words "Reports by".**
- **Replace the words "and the Millennium Declaration" with the words "and the relevant programmes and platforms for action adopted by the General Assembly and international conferences, including the Millennium Declaration".**

Paragraph 7.15

In the third sentence, after the words "older persons", add the words "including the Madrid Declaration and the 2002 International Plan of Action on Ageing".

Paragraph 7.16 (a)

Replace the words "proportion of the world's people" with the words "1990 proportion of the world's people".

Paragraph 7.17 (a)

After the words "the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development", insert the words "the International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002".

Paragraph 7.17 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.17 (b) with the following: "Improved ability of Member States, through the provision of effective assistance, to pursue the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation".

Paragraph 7.17 (c)

Revise the beginning of the new text in paragraph 7.17 (c) to read "Increased awareness of national Governments and the international community to realize through their strengthened capacity the International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002)", and retain the rest of the new text.

Paragraph 7.18 (b)

– Retain the original wording of subparagraph 7.18 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

– Retain new text and renumber accordingly.

Paragraph 7.33 (a) (old)

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.33 (a) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, and replace the words "High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development to be held in 2001" with the words "International Conference on Financing for Development, held in 2002".

Paragraph 7.33 (a) (new)

Revise new paragraph 7.33 (a) to read "Supporting efforts to achieve good governance within each country, good governance at the international level and transparency in the financial and monetary systems, and to mobilize financial resources for development as called for in the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.33 (b)

– **Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.33 (b) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1, and renumber accordingly.**

– **Revise new paragraph 7.33 (b) to read "Enhancing the efforts to implement the outcomes of the Third United Nations Conference on Financing for Development, in particular in the areas of domestic resource mobilization, official development assistance, foreign direct investment, including international private capital flows, trade, the effective use of public private partnerships, the international financial system and the financial opportunities and challenges presented by the increased role of the private sector in economic activity and the globalization of financial markets".**

Paragraph 7.33 (d)

Retain the original wording of subparagraph 7.33 (d) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.33 (e)

Replace paragraph 7.33 (e) with the following: "Fostering closer collaboration and understanding among the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions, as called for in the Millennium Declaration".

Paragraph 7.34

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.34 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Paragraph 7.34 (a)

At the end of the subparagraph, add the following: "inter alia, to address the special needs of the least developed countries".

Paragraph 7.34 (b)

Replace paragraph 7.34 (b) with the following: "To hold an exchange of views in order to facilitate enhanced understanding in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and the countries with economies in transition, of the actions necessary, including greater assistance to mobilize and allocate, in an efficient and gender-sensitive manner, domestic financial resources for development".

Paragraph 7.34 (c)

After the words "financial crises", insert the words "and appropriate mechanisms to address, in a sustainable manner, the problems derived from difficulties to pay foreign debt".

Paragraph 7.35

Retain the original wording of paragraph 7.35 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as contained in document A/55/6/Rev.1.

Subprogramme 9

Change the title of subprogramme 9 to read "Sustainable forest management".

Paragraph 7.42 (d)

Replace the words "reporting by Governments" with the words "voluntary reporting by Governments".

Paragraph 7.43 (c)

Replace the words "The number of" with the words "The effectiveness of".

Paragraph 7.43 (d)

Replace the word "mechanism" with the word "approach".

Paragraph 7.43 (e) (new)

Add a new subparagraph 7.43 (e) to read "The implementation of the multi-year programme of work as well as the programme of action of the United Nations Forum of Forests".

Legislative mandates

Overall programme

Add General Assembly resolution 55/279 (Implementation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010).

Subprogramme 3

Add General Assembly resolution 52/194 (Role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty).

Subprogramme 7

Add reference to General Assembly resolution 56/207 (Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication).

Subprogramme 9

Add Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35 (Report on the fourth session of the International Forum on Forests).

Add Economic and Social Council decision 2001/293 (Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its first session and provisional agenda for its second session).